REMARKS

1.   In response to the Office Action mailed February 6, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.   Claims 1-4, 9-14, 16-19 and 21-26 were last presented for examination.   In the outstanding Office Action, all pending claims were rejected.   By the foregoing Amendments, claims 10-12, 18 and 19 have been canceled.   Claims 1, 14, 17, 22, 25 and 26 have been amended.   Claims 27-30 have been added.   Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 1-4, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 21-30 will be pending in this application.   Of these nineteen (19) claims, four (4) claims (claim 1, 14, 17 and 30) are independent.   Based on the above Amendments and following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding objections and rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

Art of Record

2.   Applicants acknowledge receipt of form PTO-892 identifying additional references made of record by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

3.   Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out the deficiencies of claim 22. Applicants' have amended claim 22 obviate the objection.

Claim Rejections under Section 101

4.   Independent claim 17 and dependent claims 18, 19, 25 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as containing subject matter directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants' have amended independent claim 17 and dependent claims 25 and 26 to obviate the Section 101 rejection and claims 17, 25 and 26 contain patent eligible subject matter.

Claim Rejections under Section 102

5.   Independent claims 1, 14 and 17 and dependent claims 2-4, 9-13, 16 and 18-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Huffaker, *et al.*, "Otter: A General-Purpose Network Visualization Tool," June 3, 2000, ISOC Inet 99 (hereinafter

"Huffaker"). Based on the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

6. Independent claim 1 recites "displaying on a display a plurality of filter criteria, wherein the plurality of filter criteria comprises a *first selectable list of network device types* and a second selectable list of a *plurality of status levels for each of a plurality of network devices in said one or more networks*," "receiving a user selection of the plurality of filter criteria, including a selection of at least one of the network device types and at least one of said status levels," and "retrieving network device information related to the plurality of network devices in said one or more networks *which satisfy said selected filter criteria*." (*See*, Applicants' claim 1, above; emphasis added). Independent claims 14 and 17, as amended, also include similar claim features. Huffaker does not show a plurality of filter criteria comprising a selectable list of network device types and a selectable list of a plurality of status levels for each of the a plurality of network devices as claimed by claim 1. Instead Huffaker only teaches or suggests "changing the status of root nodes (i.e., turning non-root nodes into roots and vice versa)". (*See*, Huffaker, page 5). Further Huffaker does not retrieve network device information related to selected filtered criteria (network device type and status level), as claimed by claim 1. Therefore, Huffaker fails to teach or suggest every limitation of claim 1 for at least this reason, and thus, claim 1, as well as claims 14 and 17, are patentable over Huffaker.

Dependent Claims

7. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them *a fortiori* independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.
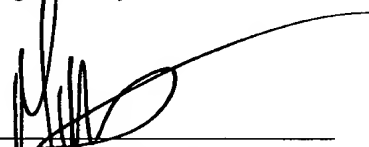
New Claim

8. New independent claim 30 recites "creating for display on a single display page a visual representation of said network device information, said visual representation comprising a first segment which is visually distinguishable from a second network segment by indicia, ... wherein the *indicia does not connect* any of the plurality of icons."

(*See,* Applicants' claim 30, above; emphasis added).   The Office Action alleged that FIG. 11 of Huffaker "shows a network segments visually distinguishable by space and connection lines." (*See,* Office Action, page 4).   Applicants' note that "space" cannot be indicia because indicia require, at a minimum, a marking.   Also, the Office Action alleged the connection lines of Huffaker's FIG. 11 teach the indicia of Applicants' claim. However, there are several connections lines in FIG. 11 that serve to connect the nodes, and not to visually distinguish the network segments as claimed.   Thus, Huffaker cannot teach claim 30's feature of indicia for visually distinguishing network segments using indicia that does not connect the icons in each network segment.

Conclusion

9.   In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Verga
Reg. No. 39,410

April 24, 2007